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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/769,761	01/26/2001	Mark T. Wajcr	46396-628	7396
7590 12/12/2003 MARGER JOHNSON & MCCOLLOM, P.C. 1030 S.W. MORRISON STREET PORTLAND, OR 97205			EXAMINER ALVO, MARC S	
			ART UNIT 1731	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 12/12/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/769,761	WAJER ET AL	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Steve Alvo	1731	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 July 2003.

2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14, 16-30, 32-45 and 47-60 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14, 16-30, 32-45 and 47-60 is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 9.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

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The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-14, 16-30, 32-45 and 47-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over CA 2,278,399 in view of WAN et al (6,632,328) or PARKER et al (3,193,445).

CA 2,278,399 teaches bleaching mechanical pulp (see Experimental, Part 1 for thermo-mechanical pulp (TMP)) with 1-6% peroxide in the absence of silicate and sodium hydroxide using 0.3 to 2% MgO or Mg(OH)₂, based on the weight of the pulp to obtain a high ISO brightness at high bleaching efficiency. The Mg(OH)₂ of CA 2,278,399 is added prior to or simultaneously with the peroxide. CA 2,278,399 further teaches that the pulp can be pretreated with a chelating agent to remove detrimental metal ions from the pulp, see page 3, lines 8-27, e.g. to lower the amount of Fe and Mn. WAN et al teaches substituting a MgCO₃ compound for alkali enables the use of a lower pH and teaches that a pH of 8.0 is optimum for peroxide bleaching. Or PARKER et al teaches that a pH of 8.0 provides the best results for peroxide bleaching. It would have been obvious to use a pH of 8.0 during the peroxide bleaching of (column 3, line 57) to provide the best bleaching when alkali is not present, as taught by WAN et al (6,632,328) or PARKER et al (3,193,445). See CA 2,278,399, page 4 for ISO brightness of 70-80, time up to and greater than 180 minutes, 0.3-2% Mg compound, 1-6% peroxide.

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The independent claims are in Markush form even though they have been amended to a single Mg compound, e.g. $\text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2$. It would be clearer to amend the claim to "a bleaching mixture comprising hydrogen peroxide and magnesium hydroxide."

When filing an "Official" FAX in Group 1730, please indicate in the Header (upper right) "Official" for papers that are to be entered into the file. The "Official" FAX phone number for this TC 1700 is:

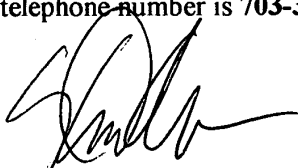
Non-Final Fax: 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the **primary examiner** should be directed to **Steve Alvo** whose telephone number is (703) 308-2048. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 6:00 AM - 2:30 PM (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Steve Griffin, can be reached on 703-308-1164.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the **Group receptionist** whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.

MSA
December 5, 2003


STEVE ALVO
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 1731